# Financial Support for Higher Education Student Enrollment Growth in the Commonwealth

Presented to the Higher Education Advisory Commission

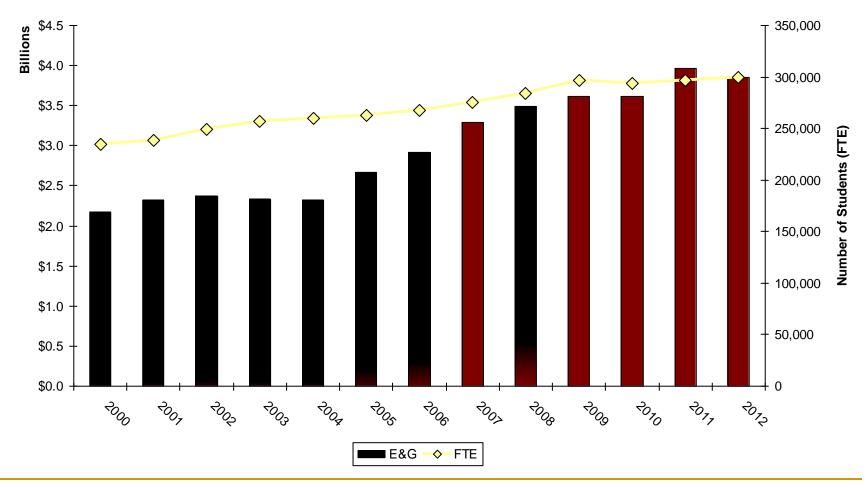
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# Governor's Top Jobs Legislation (TJ-21) provides per student incentive funding for enrollment growth

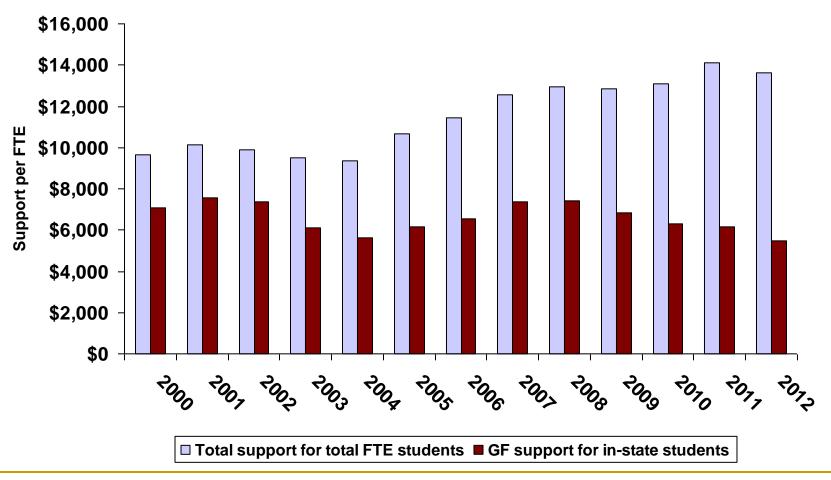
- Funding is to follow the student to the public or private Virginia institution of their choice
  - Significant enough to encourage institutions to grow their student populations to help achieve 100,000 degrees over next 15 years.
- At present, the anticipated amount is to correlate to state funding provided through the Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) Program to students attending private, not-for-profit, Virginia institutions.
  - > Budget currently provides approximately \$2,650 per student for TAG.
- Ideally, the per student amount should be provided immediately upon certification of enrollment levels.
- Funding is to be a bridge until full costs are accommodated in the base adequacy calculations.

### Both E&G support and FTE students have grown



Notes: Data includes E&G and eminent scholar appropriation for 17 institutions, VIMS and extension services and FY 2010-12 are based on enrollment projections. FY 2009-10 include budget reductions and FY 2010-11 includes SFSF appropriation.

## General fund support per FTE in-statestudent, though, is decreasing



Notes: Data includes E&G, eminent scholar, and financial aid appropriation for 17 institutions, VIMS and extension services. VCCS nongeneral fund financial aid not included. FY 2010-12 are based on enrollment projections. FY 2009-10 include budget reductions and FY 2010-11 include SFSF appropriation.

#### Which enrollment numbers should be used?

#### Possible scenarios to use:

- Annual count based on actual FTE.
  - Funding delayed by one year; provided when FTE met; data available in September. Similar approach to base adequacy calculation.
- Annual count based on projected FTE.
  - Funding provided for each year based on anticipated FTE; removed if not met.
- Annual count based on fall and spring estimated FTE.
  - Funding provided twice each year based on September data and potentially updated spring data.
  - Need to create spring report.

#### What base year should be used to show growth?

- Legislation passed in 2011 General Assembly Session.
  - Argues potentially for FY 2011 as the base year.
  - Could use FY 2012 as base year to coincide with funding in new 2012-14 biennial budget.
- Legislation acknowledges that the Governor shall consider and recommend as he deems appropriate additional general fund appropriation to address the unfunded enrollment growth that occurred between the 2005-2006 fiscal year and July 1, 2011.
- Many schools grew the last ten years without funding provided for additional enrollment.
  - Would be more expensive to fund.
  - Different schools benefit differently depending on the year chosen.

## Enrollment funding formula challenges:

- Establish Base Year
- Determine enrollment numbers used
- Decide whether to address diversity between institutions
  - Should we account for ability of school to raise tuition or provide appropriate share (fund split)?
  - Should we account for the financial need of institution's student population?
  - Should we account for the type of student?
  - Should we link funding to outcomes other than just enrollment (i.e., reward for retention and graduation)?